

~~TOP SECRET~~Serial: 000489 S  
5 JU 1954~~TOP SECRET~~

SUBJECT: M-209's Sent to French Indo-China

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2  
Department of the Army  
the Pentagon

1. My letter dated 12 January 1954, Serial 00015-S, the Director, National Security Agency, concurred in the proposal of the Department of the Army to release 350 M-209's to the French for use in French Indo-China.

2. The desired machines were shipped to Indo-China and on arrival there on 1 April 1954 were received for by French authorities as having arrived in good condition.

3. It is possible that these machines arrived too late to be employed and hence may never have been used or even taken out of the boxes in which they were shipped.

4. In the light of the Department of the Army policy with respect to the disposal of crypto-apparatus, including Converter M-209, it is recommended that steps be taken to ascertain the present whereabouts of these 350 M-209's, if not distributed to troops, in order to forestall the possibility of their being sold as surplus property or otherwise disposed of in a manner contrary to the interests of the United States.

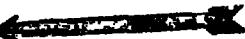
FOR THE DIRECTOR:

s/ L.H. FROST

L. H. FROST  
Rear Admiral, US Navy  
Chief of Staff

cc: AG

C/S

S/ASST (Mr. Friedman) ← 

P/P

O/SEC

M/R: Self-explanatory.

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